

**Chapter 20: Outline-**  
**The Industrial Revolution and its Impact on European Society**  
**You must create your own identifications –at least 40**

1. Why did the Industrial Revolution begin in Great Britain?
2. Discuss and trace the role of the factory in the early Industrial Revolution. What made the factory system possible? What impact did it have on the lives of workers, especially on women and children?
3. Compare and contrast the patterns of industrialization in continental Europe and the United States with those of Great Britain.
4. Discuss the role of government in the industrial development of the Western world. What were ways that government encouraged industrialization and how did it attempt to check its excesses? Are modern day efforts to curb industrial excesses the same or different from what they were in the early nineteenth century?
5. How are changes in population growth and the development of urbanization related to the Industrial Revolution?
6. Discuss the impact of the early Industrial Revolution upon the family, the role of women, and the living and working conditions of the industrial workers?
7. What efforts did workers make to ameliorate (make better) the harsh working conditions of the early Industrial Revolution? How successful were they?
8. Assume that you are a small landowner who lost his land due to economic changes in the British countryside. Explain your changed position and lifestyle as you and your family move to Manchester -or another industrial city- to gain employment in one of the new factories.
9. Discuss the concept of the 'middle-class' and its relation to the Industrial Revolution.
10. "The 'working-class' is a product of the Industrial Revolution." Discuss.

**MAP EXERCISES**

1. The Industrial Revolution in Britain by 1850. MAP 20.1. What is the relationship between areas of industrialization and major population centers? How important was the railroad to Britain's industrial development and why? (page 601)
2. The Industrialization of Europe by 1850. MAP 20.2. What are the possible geographic and non-geographic reasons why continental industrialization was centered in north and northwestern Europe rather than in the eastern and southeastern regions of the continent? What reasons could explain why coal mining and iron industries are densely clustered in manufacturing and industrial areas? (page 606)

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR THE PRIMARY SOURCES (BOXED DOCUMENTS)**

1. “The Traits of the British Industrial Entrepreneur”: As seen in the life of Richard Arkwright, what traits did Edward Baines think were crucial to be a successful entrepreneur? To what extent are these still considered the necessary traits for a successful entrepreneur in the twenty-first century age of the computer and the internet? (page 598)
2. “Discipline in the New Factories”: As seen in this document, what impact did factories have on the lives of workers? To what extent have such “rules” determined much of modern industrial life? How is your life marked by the historical development of such rules? (page 603)
3. “S-t-e-a-m-boat A-Coming!”: How does this document illustrate the impact of the transportation revolution on daily life in the United States? In particular, how important was the steamboat to the economic and social development of the United States? Is Mark Twain romanticizing his account of life on the Mississippi from his remembered past? If so, why, and where in his account do you find evidence that he has idealized his past? (page 575)
4. “The Great Irish Famine”: Discuss the impact of the great Irish Famine on the Irish people and upon the broader Atlantic world, including the United States. How were the industrial societies of Britain, the United States, and other nations affected by this disaster? Why didn’t the British government do more to alleviate the impact of the famine? (page 610)
5. “Child Labor: Discipline in the Textile Mills”: What kind of working conditions did children face in the mills during the early Industrial Revolution? What were the benefits of child labor to the employers? Why not employ just adults? Why did entrepreneurs permit such conditions and such treatment of children? Is the problem of child labor still with the world today? Why or why not? If so, where? (page 617)
6. “Child Labor: The Mines”: Why was it claimed that working in the coal-mines was worse even than labor in the cotton mills and factories? Other than cheaper wages, what might be the advantage to using young children in mines? What were the possible reasons it took until 1842 to get legislation pertaining to child labor in the mines, and then it only prohibited the employment of boys under the age of ten? (page 617)